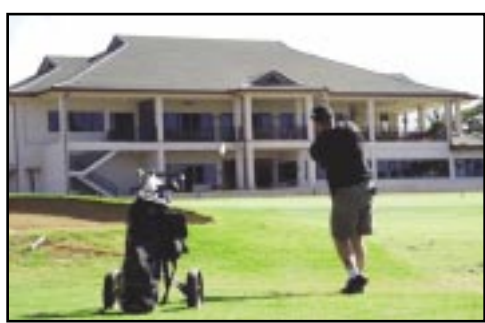




Bloch Arena offers a variety of alternative work-out opportunities... B-1

# HAWAII'S NAVY NEWS

Serving the 'Best Homeport in the Navy'



New automated golf tee time scheduler introduced at Navy-Marine golf course ... A-8

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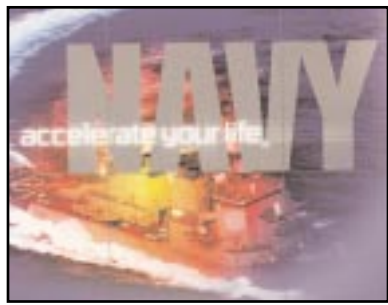
March 1, 2002

## Career Decision Fair comes to Hawaii

**JO2 Daniel J. Calderon**  
*Staff Writer*

Active duty Sailors and their spouses in Hawaii can expect to reap the benefits of a Career Decision Fair March 4-15.

According to Navy Career Counselor (SW/AW) Chris Alford, command career counselor for Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Commander Navy Region Hawaii, the goal of the fair is to ensure that proper information about



Navy careers is disseminated to personnel in every command.

"There will be career information on new programs, and

various briefs that prepare personnel for both the military and civilian sector," said Alford. "We're also targeting some of our briefs to spouses and family members because we know they influence Sailors on their decisions about whether to stay in or get out of the Navy. We want to make sure they are as informed as our uniformed personnel."

Throughout the fair, there will be several evening events in which babysitting, refresh-

ments and door prizes will be provided. At the end of the year, all of those who attended the evening spouse event will be entered into a drawing to win a new Jeep Liberty (see related info box on A-3 for date and time of spouses brief.)

Detailers, or their representatives, from every enlisted rating will be on hand to give individuals advice about their careers beyond their current duty station. Officer detailers will also be available for ca-

reer guidance. Briefs throughout the two-week event will focus on various aspects of careers, from junior enlisted through the senior officer community.

According to the Center for Career Development, this will be the first Career Decision Fair in which local Morale, Welfare and Recreation representatives (MWR) will host an evening event for spouses.

Enlisted detailers from PERS-40 have taken on the role of career managers. They

will be available to provide detailed career information, guidance, and planning assistance to Sailors and various commands. They also give a thorough description of the detailing process and JASS (Job Advertisement and Selection System) operations.

Officer detailers from the surface warfare, submarine and aviation communities will offer community-specific briefings and one-on-one de-

▼ See CAREER, A-3

## ARG pulls into Pearl Harbor



Two AH-1W Super Cobra helicopters sit chocked and chained on the deck of USS Peleliu (LHA 5) during a recent port visit to Pearl Harbor. More than 4,000 Sailors and Marines of the USS Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group and the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) enjoyed a short liberty call in Hawaii. See related story and photos on A-5.

JO3 Tim Walsh photo

## NMCRS kicks off fund drive

**JO3 Sunday Williams**  
*Staff Writer*

Representatives from area commands throughout Oahu had an opportunity to learn about the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Monday at Sharkey Theater. The education on NMCRS services happened during the kickoff of the Society's annual fund drive for 2002.

The theme, "Proudly Showing Our Colors Since 1904," will be featured during the fund drive, which runs March 4 to April 5.

Rear Adm. Robert T. Conway Jr., Commander Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, strongly encouraged Sailors to participate in this year's fundraiser.

"In the light of the attacks of Sept. 11, I am hoping for 100 percent participation. The amount of the gift to NMCRS is not as important as demonstrating our total support for our fellow shipmates," said Conway.

"I'm convinced that the money will take care of itself, whether it is a dollar or a more substantial gift. If we have 100 percent participation, we will send a loud and clear message that we take care of our own," he said.

Conway explained that, through the efforts of NMCRS, 33 children who were left behind by fallen shipmates during the September attack will all get to go to college.

The 98-year-old society has helped Sailors and their families in Hawaii by providing emergency assistance in times of need.

For example, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provided over \$1 million of assistance in 2001 for Sailors, Marines and dependents in Hawaii.

Nearly 1,440 Sailors, Marines and their families received financial aid in the form of interest-free loans and grants for emergency transportation, food and shelter, vehicle repairs, funeral expenses, setting up new households and other items.

Additionally, 305 "junior sea bags" (layettes for newborns) were provided to Navy and Marine families in Hawaii last year through the Budgeting for Baby class presented by NMCRS.

Assistance that did not involve money was

▼ See NMCRS A-4

## Pacific Fleet winning fight against attrition

**U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs**

Pacific Fleet forces were some of the first to be called upon in the United States' fight against terrorism. Now they continued to excel in another battle - the fight against attrition.

A message recently released from the Navy's Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) headquarters listed 130 PACFLT commands as winners of the Fiscal Year 2001 Retention Excellence Award for sustaining superior levels of retention.

Type or regional commanders recommended the ships, submarines, aircraft squadrons and shore commands for the award, and each unit met or exceeded retention goals set by a board consisting of type and regional Navy counselors.

Commands must meet statistical goals for

three categories of Sailors - first term, second term and career Sailors with less than 20 years of service.

The format of selecting winners based on statistical goals is what makes the Retention Excellence Award Program different from its predecessor, the Golden Anchor Program, in which commands would submit a package to be judged, explained Master Chief Petty Officer (SW/AW) Jean Palmero, PACFLT's Fleet Career Counselor.

"What we use now are strictly statistics, retention and attrition statistics, rather than judging one (command) over another in what basically was a creative writing contest," she said.

However, commands that win the Retention Excellence Award may still paint their anchor gold as a display of retention success - one holdover tradition from the previous

program.

Commander, U. S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Thomas Fargo expressed high praise for the awardees in the fleet-wide message.

"Your dedication and commitment to career motivation and excellence not only exemplify your superb performance, but also attest to your concern for the personal and professional needs of our Sailors," Fargo said.

"A major part of this commitment involves the ability of your command to ensure that the essential information required to make informed career decisions is delivered to our Sailors," he said. "This year's recipients of the Retention Excellence Award have accepted this challenge and are winning the war for people."

"Your endeavors are truly appreciated. Every member of your command can be justifiably proud of your achievements."

## A NATION AT WAR

## Coalition forces weigh moves to aid long-term Afghan stability, security

**Linda D. Kozaryn**

*American Forces Press Service*

Combating Al Qaeda and the Taliban government that provided safe haven for the terrorists is just the first step in ending the long-term strife in Afghanistan, according to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Speaking on NBC's Meet the Press and CBS's Face the Nation, Rumsfeld said U.S. as well as U.N. officials and coalition partners are considering how to help the Afghan people create lasting peace, stability and security.

The interim government led by Hamid Karzai, he said, wants to

create a national military force that will provide that security. An alternative would be to expand the International Security Assistance Force led by the British that is patrolling the Afghan capital of Kabul.

"The Pentagon currently has an assessment team that's going to make a report to me on how long they think it would take for the Karzai government to develop a national force, what it would cost and who could assist with the training," Rumsfeld said. "We have a big interest in seeing that we're able to give them a good start toward having a secure and stable situation."

The secretary also said U.S. defense officials have not seen any hard evidence in recent weeks that terrorist leader Osama bin Laden is alive. "If he's alive, he's very busy hiding and he is having a dickens of a time communicating with his people," Rumsfeld.

The real test, he said, is whether Bin Laden is able to effectively manage the Al Qaeda network and engage in more terrorist acts. "Is he leading (Al Qaeda)? Is he raising additional money? Is he the power and force in recruiting more people? The short answer is, 'No,'" Rumsfeld said.

▼ See LONG-TERM, A-2



U.S. Navy photo

During a Sensitive Site Exploitation (SSE) mission in Afghanistan, a U.S. Navy SEAL stands in a cave (previously used by Al Qaeda and Taliban forces) to give intelligence officials an idea as to the cave's size and scope. Navy special operations forces are conducting missions in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.